



# Spot Light on the KNIGHTS

-Romans 13:12

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## Pruned in 2020

*"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples." John 15: 5 & 8*

One of my all-time favorite plants on our property was a huge, gorgeous clematis of hand-sized purple flowers that climbed up from the ground over 10 feet onto the south side of the house. It was a car-stopper every June. Contrastingly, on the east side of the house grew a sickly-looking clematis twin that struggled to grow each year. One spring, out of love and sheer determination for that weak plant to LIVE, I dedicated hours to its development. We bought a trellis and carefully helped the plant grab onto the trellis, watered it, mulched it, and cared for it daily until one day I saw the huge 2-inch buds ready to open. I was so excited to see the fruit of our labors.

The next day I walked by the vine, and to my horror, saw it had been hacked to pieces. Every bud was unattached from the vine and lying on the ground, sure to die. My husband and I were so puzzled as to how this happened, and brought our dear sons out to show them this tragedy. Our boys were about 5 and 1 1/2 years old at the time and very active. When asked about how they thought this happened, Wyatt looked at us with such pride and said, "We did it!" as Tyson jumped up and down next to him with excitement. I tried to remain calm and asked them why. With smiles and wide eyes, Wyatt reported they pretended the plant was an enemy and took off all their heads to protect the house.

Yes, the parts of the plant hacked from the vine died. However, within one month, the parts that stayed connected grew taller and thicker than ever with even more buds and car-stopping flowers blooming that year. I learned one valuable lesson about caring for vine plants - they MUST be pruned in order to grow and produce something.

Jesus tells us we also must stay connected to Him and suffer some pruning in order for Him to shine through us. Do you feel pruned from 2020? Ironically, the popular saying of "hindsight is 20/20" applies right now. There are several things we can examine with clearer vision today: What was "hacked"? Are we still connected to the vine? Is there new growth, or are we "dying"?

The pruning of 2020 continues into 2021. Out of love and with sheer determination, Jesus wants you to LIVE and bear fruit! The Father knows and planned how each of us were pruned and has deep love and compassion for us. He wants you to know the purpose for the pruning. Those who continue to cling to the vine, Jesus, WILL see new growth and wonderful fruit that gives glory to the Father. This transformation occurs through confession, worship, Bible study, prayer, song, communion and fellowship with other believers. That "fruit" is growing right now and we can look forward to what that will look like in 2022 and beyond. Let go of what lies dead and cling to Jesus. Praise be to Him who loves us, sees our potential, and prunes us!

By Lisa Kube, Guidance Director

**Please join us!**  
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**OH!**

**What a KNIGHT!**  
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**Purchase by June 1st**

Available from some church offices & MLHS

*Valet parking*

*Auction preview: 4:30 p.m.  
Catered Dinner served: 6:00 p.m.*

*~Menu~*

*Smoked Chicken Breast  
Mashed Potatoes and Gravy  
Cashew Lettuce Salad  
Green Beans  
Dinner Rolls & Butter  
Desserts*

*Indoor Live Auction to follow  
\*Venue format subject to change*



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